

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 226970 TOSEC 270060

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TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226970 TOSEC 270060

NODIS

FOL TEL SENT ACTION DA R ES SALAAM INFO SECSTATE FROM KINSHASA
DTD 14 SEIT 1976 QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 7681

NODIS

DAR FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY
SECSTATE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PLANE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) PFOR

SUBJ: MOBUTU DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE SECRETARY

REF: A. STATE 225479 B. STATE 225474

1. I SAW PRESIDENT MOBUTU MORNING OF SEPT 14 TO RELAY PROPOSAL REF
A OF SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL IN KINSHASA EVENING OF SEPT 21,
TALK WITH MOBUTU, OVERNIGHT, AND DEPARTURE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 22
AFTER SECOND MEETING WITH MOBUTU.

2. PRESIDENT MOBUTU WAS DELIGHTED AT PROSPECT OF SECRETAR'S VISIT
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PAGE 02 STATE 226970 TOSEC 270060

AND ACCEPTED IMMEDIATELY. HE DID SAY THAT HE WOULD APPRECIATE

IT IF THE SECRETARY COULD ARRIVE THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 21 BETWEEN 5:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. (MOBUTU GOES TO BED FAIRLY EARLY). I PROMISED TO RELAY THIS REQUEST TO THE SECRETARY.

3. MOBUTU, AT FIRST, WANTED THE SECRETARY TO MEET WITH HIM IN LUBUMBASHI, BUT AFTER I POINTED OUT THE COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES OF SUCH A SCENARIO -- ESPECIALLY FOR THE PRESS -- HE AGREED THAT KINSHASA WAS PREFERABLE FROM LOGISTICS STANDPOINT. HE WONDERED, HOWEVER, IF LUBUMBASHI MIGHT BE CONSIDERED FOR A SUBSEQUENT STOP, IF THE SECRETARY WERE TO REMAIN IN THE AREA FOR SOME TIME AND IN THE EVENT HE WOULD WISH TO VISIT ZAIRE A SECOND TIME. I SAID I COULD NOT SPECULATE, BUT WOULD PASS THE IDEA ALONG.

4. ALTHOUGH MOBUTU CLEARLY LIKES THE IDEA OF MEETING IN LUBUMBASHI, HE MADE CLEAR KINSHASA IS PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE TO HIM. I ASSUME I DID THE RIGHT THING IN POINTING OUT THE NEEDS OF THE PRESS FOR GOOD COMMUNICATION, BUT IF THERE IS NO NEED FOR THE PRESS TO FILE FROM LUBUMBASHI, THE SECRETARY MIGHT CONSIDER THE LUBUMBASHI OPTION. PLEASE ADVISE. IN THE MEANTIME, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PLAN ON KINSHASA PER REF (A).

5. THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER QUESTIONS THAT REQUIRE ATTENTION:

(A) THE TWO SCHEDULES OUTLINED IN THE REFTELS CONFLICT SOMEWHAT. WE PRESUME THAT THE SHORTER TIME FRAME IN REF (A) IS THE OPERATIONAL ONE. PLEASE CONFIRM.

(B) WE WOULD APPRECIATE URGENT GUIDANCE ON PLANS FOR PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT RE SECRETARY'S IMPENDING VISIT HERE SO WE MAY COORDINATE WITH GOZ.

(C) IF MRS. KISSINGER AND THE OTHER LADIES ARE COMING TO KINSHASA, PARTY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S WIFE, MRS. NGUZA, WILL BE OUT OF TOWN AND THAT MRS. MOBUTU HAS RECENTLY SUFFERED A MISCARRIAGE AND IS THUS UNLIKELY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VISIT.

CUTLER UNQTE ROBINSON

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To: SECRETARY SECRETARY AIRCRAFT
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